
TPO Census 2000 Newsletter

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Olympia, WA

2000 Census Data Begins To Trickle Out

So what's happening with Census 2000?? Lots!! Data is finally being released. The first of these files is the raw redistricting data complete with racial make up, right down to the census block. This data is based on the 100% count data and covers total population by geographic area and race.

Beginning next year in March 2002, more detailed sample data will be available for the 2000 Census. This data is based on the long form questionnaire and will include demographic, social, economic, and housing data. This will be the beginning of the detailed data that will be usable for environmental justice and other transportation issues. Most of this data will be available on line for free, or on CD and DVD ROM for a fee of \$50. CD and DVD ROMs can be purchased from the Bureau of the Census in Seattle, WA by calling (206) 553-5836.

Census Data in a Nutshell: Here is a synopsis of what will be available

Currently Available Census Geography

- Census 2000 County Block Maps
- Census 2000 Block Groups
- Census 2000 Tract Maps
- Census 2000 Places
- Census 2000 Minor Civil Divisions
- Census 2000 Counties

Our friends at ESRI have made it even easier to download base maps for the census blocks and tracts as well as for other geographic areas from the census files. You can access these maps for no cost at their web site through the URL below. I have already downloaded some of these files and they are compatible with our WSDOT GIS programs. These GIS Maps will allow you to create your own maps and data thresholds for on-the-fly analysis of the available census data. These maps will also be available on the WSDOT GIS servers in the very near future.

<http://www.geographynetwork.com/data/tiger2000/>

Currently Available Census Data

- Total Population by Area
- Ethnic Population by Area

Population and race data have been released as part of the redistricting data as required by federal law. This data can now be accessed at the American Fact Finder Web Site. Data can be downloaded in a number of ways. Data can be displayed based upon user-selected geography in table, map, or ASCII format. The map format is very useful in that it allows the user to zoom

in on any area down to the street level and display a number of geographic, as well as, data features. This information can be accessed at the following location:

<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>

Upcoming Census Data

Additional data from the 100% file will be issued throughout the remainder of 2001. Data will include statistics regarding multi-racial population and housing characteristics that can be broken down into rural-urban characteristics and in many cases down to census block detail.

By Late 2001 (September) user specified tabulations of records from the full microdata file will become available, subject to policy decisions regarding confidentiality.

<http://www.census.gov/mso/www/prodprof/census2000.pdf>

Census Sample Data Release Schedule

The first of the detailed sample data (not based on the 100% counts) will be the Demographic Profile Data. It will be available beginning in March 2002, and include demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics. This data will be available down to the census tract level. Increasingly detailed data will become available throughout 2001 and all of 2002. The Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) based upon the one percent and five percent sample files will be available by late 2002 and early 2003.

Of Particular Interest to Transportation Planners

Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP)

The Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) data will be some of the last information released. The CTPP data is being developed by FHWA in cooperation with the Census Bureau. This is specialized data designed and organized to specifically benefit the transportation planning and modeling communities. This package will contain all of the data from the 2000 census relevant to transportation planning. WSDOT

participated in the up-front funding of the CTPP. Therefore, this data should be available free of charge to WSDOT and its associated MPOs. We will keep you informed as to the availability of this data. The distribution media for this data will be DVD and CD ROM.

For More information regarding the CTPP please access the following sites:

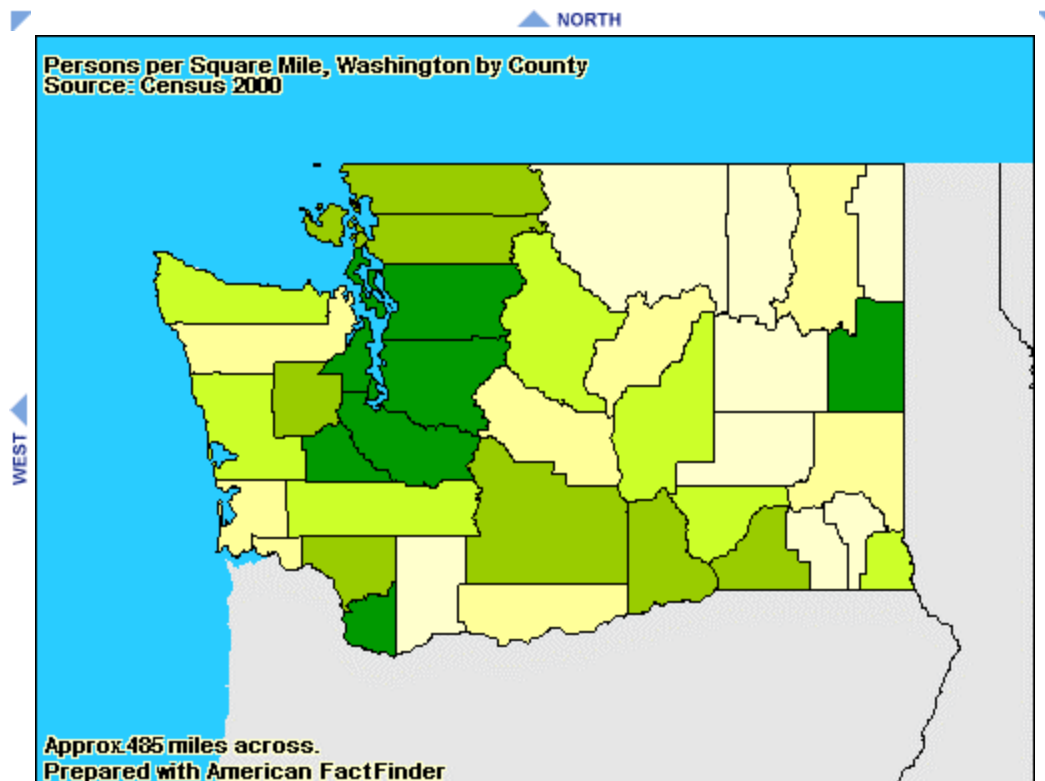
<http://www.mcs.com/~berwyned/census/>
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ctpp/tables.pdf>

Some Sample Redistricting Data Available From The Census Web Site

Legend

Data Classes

Persons/Sq Mile	
3 - 9	
10 - 22	
23 - 40	
43 - 84	
237 - 817	



Washington State Population Density by County

(From Bureau of the Census On-Line Data Base)

For more information contact Bill Osterhout in the WSDOT Transportation Planning Office at (360) 705-7963.